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: Examiner:

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: Group Art Unit:

: Corres. To FR 99/16118  
: Filed December 21, 1999

McLean, Virginia

[illegible]

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is filed contemporaneously with the filing of the subject application. Please amend the claims of the application as indicated below without prejudice in order to be able to reintroduce the subject matter in translated claims.

N.E.

Claim 4, line 1, delete "l'une des revendications 1 à 3" and replace with --revendication 1--.

Claim 5, line 1, delete "l'une des revendications 1 à 4" and replace with --revendication 1--.

Claim 6, lines 1 and 2, delete "l'une des revendications 1 à 5" and replace with --revendication 1--.

Claim 9, line1, delete "l'une des revendications 7 ou 8" and  
replace with --revendication 7--.